



Northwest Missouri State University's Madraliers will host its annual Yuletide Feaste and will feature a night filled with food and performances Dec. 8 and 9 at 6:30 p.m.

# Holiday Cheer

## Yuletide Feaste rings in the Christmas season

KATIE STEVENSON  
News Editor | @KatieSStevenson

Northwest Missouri State University's Madraliers will host its 44th annual Yuletide Feaste and will feature a night filled with entertaining performances and delicious, hearty food.

The Feaste will be held in the ballroom of the J. W. Jones Student Union Dec. 8 and Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m. The Feaste features performances by the Northwest Madraliers, the Recorder Consort and the Royale Brass Quintet and features a meal catered to the time period of Tudor England.

According to Brian Lanier, conductor of the Madraliers, the Feaste is a tradition meant to help ring in the holiday season for Northwest and the community. When the audience enters the Union they are greeted by carolers who are position throughout the building singing traditional holiday music and welcoming guests.

"The Yuletide Feaste is a celebration of the holiday season," Lanier said. "The community is able to come together to have a great evening of fun, food and entertainment."

The performers begin preparation for the Feaste at the beginning of the semester to make the performance as seamless as possible.

"Rehearsals for the Feaste begin in August with the choir learning music to be performed," Lanier said. "The Recorder Consort, Brass Quintet, and Actors begin rehearsals in November. The sets are moved to the ballroom, the decorations go up, and the magic happens."

Senior member of the Madraliers Meagan Timmons said a lot of works goes into making the Yuletide Feaste happen.

"We do a lot of work to prepare for Feast," Timmons said. "We have a whole day to set up for the whole thing. We're divided into committees like decoration, construction, and greenery and canopy. We spend the week of Feaste decorating the union ballroom and having rehearsals. We also carol in the union the week of Feaste."

The Feaste transports the audience back in time by adhering to all aspects of the performance and food to the time period of Tudor England.

"The decorations and set for the Yuletide Feaste are there to recreate a banquet hall in a castle," Lanier said. "Banners hang from the ceiling, greenery is draped throughout the staircases, and the entryway to the banquet hall features an elaborate canopy. The choir is seated on either side of the King and Queen, and all are dressed in beautiful period costumes which complete the vision for the event."

For Timmons, the evening is a magical way to transition into the holiday season and join the community and Northwest together.

"My favorite part of Feaste is a tie between watching the ballroom turn into a completely different place filled with holiday spirit," Timmons said. "My other favorite part is watching people in our community truly enjoy the event."

Lanier echoed similar ideas as Timmons also stating the event is an amazing way to integrate both the Northwest and Maryville community.

"The annual tradition of the Yuletide Feaste is a tremendous opportunity for the students, faculty, and citizens of the surrounding community to come together and celebrate the holiday season," Lanier said. "The student performers are able to sing, act, and play for the audience in a beautiful setting reminiscent of a banquet hall from the Renaissance."

Tickets this year for the event cost \$31.50 and can either be purchased online or in person at the cashiering office. According to Timmons a lot of the money goes toward helping fund touring trips.

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Maryville plans for \$1.5 million street repairs in 2018. Most of the road work will be done over the summer months with hopes to start as soon as weather permits.

# Maryville plans for extensive street repairs

KATIE STEVENSON  
News Editor | @KatieSStevenson

Maryville plans for \$1.5 million street repairs in 2018.

As 2017 draws to a close, the City of Maryville readies for one of its most expansive roadwork projects to date.

The budget for street repairs was \$1.5 million and the repairs will focus mostly on asphalt mill and overlay as the city fixes around 11 miles of city roads.

City Manager Greg McDanel said the 2018 budget is over five times larger than the normal budget for street repairs. Funds to pay for the work will come largely from the city's half-cent capital improvement sales tax, which was extended by voters last April for another 20 years.

"Generally the city is able to budget between two and three hundred thousand dollars in street repairs generally with asphalt mill and overlay," McDanel said. "But this year due to the citizens supporting a renewal of our capital improvement sales tax which was a half-cent sales tax that was renewed in April of last year, we are able to do a more substantial project this year. So, it is going to be about four to five times our normal investment, probably even more than that, of annual street overlay."

Public Works Director C.E. Goodall stated while the current budget does not cover all the road repairs required in Maryville the 2018 construction will repair a large majority of the roads.

"More than likely with that amount of money we're looking at to be able to do around 80 percent of our asphalt roads in town and at least get an overlay on them," Goodall said. "We did estimate our cost closer to 2 million to do all of the streets but I think that we can get a large volume of those streets complete this next year."

McDanel stated the city hopes to move forward with the project in the spring and while there is a tentative list of streets to be repaired, the definite list of streets to be fixed will be determined after winter.

"We have a list that prioritizes streets, but after the winter months with snow and ice, we will have a new set of priorities essentially," McDanel said.

Goodall hopes most of the road work can do done over the summer months but aims to start the project as soon as weather permits.

"We will look to get our request for proposals out relatively early in the year that way we can try and have someone started at least by the end of May trying to do most of it over the summer," Goodall said. "If we can get it started earlier with good weather then we will probably try and do that with the quantity we are looking to have this next because they will need most if not all of the summer to get that finished."

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# Graduate students face tax crunch under bill

KATIE STEVENSON  
News Editor | @KatieSStevenson

The Senate is working to pass a 500-page document filed with tax reforms and cuts which could have major implications for each social class.

According to the Washington Post the centerpiece of the plan is a move to lower the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 20 percent, starting in 2019. The Senate tax bill would also temporarily cut tax rates for families and individuals until 2025. The bill would also make significant cuts to programs like Social Security and Medicare and place large taxes on graduate students.

Republicans pushed for the new tax bill hoping it would help with the lower and middle class as well as helping to lower the national deficit. President Donald Trump touched on this idea during his speech in St. Charles, Missouri Nov. 29.

"Our focus is on helping the folks who work in the mailrooms and the machine shops of America, the plumbers, the carpenters, the cops, the teachers, the truck drivers, the pipe fitters — the people that like me best," Trump said during his speech. "It is not enough for the middle class to keep getting by. We want them to start getting way ahead."

However, Northwest economic professor Tolina Fufa believes the new tax bill will hurt the middle class more than it will benefit them.

"Overall what we can say is there will be a massive tax cut for the top one percent of the rich and everybody the tax cuts will expire after ten years..." Fufa said. "All the researchers, including an established economist who has looked into this, believe it will add to the national deficit."

Missouri senator Clair McCaskill echoed similar ideas to Fufa after voting against the new bill.

"I wanted to support real tax reform. This isn't it — this is a bad deal for Missouri families," McCaskill said in a statement after her vote. "Working people in Missouri deserve better than to get scraps, while corporations and wealthy business owners make out like bandits."

The new bill will not only affect the nation's middle class but it was also affect students in graduate school.

The Northwest website has estimated a year of graduate school for a Missouri resident would cost around \$10,505.97 while for a non-Missouri resident a year of tuition would cost roughly \$17,333.19. Under the new bill, graduate students who work for their university and go to school for free or less than the normal tuition would be taxed as if the amount of money they make is equivalent to the universities tuition.

For Fufa, this section of the bill can be very devastating as it would make it even harder for students to continue to expand their education.

"If you look at the house bill I think graduate school would be very expensive because that which would be your tuition would now be considered as part of your income," Fufa said.

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Carrie Leesman tutors Josh Partridge in the Student Success Center Dec. 5. The Student Success Center renewed certification for its tutor training program and Supplemental Instruction program.

# Various tutoring services renewed

SAMANTHA COLLISON

Chief Reporter | @SammieCollison

The Student Success Center (SSC) renewed certification for its tutor training program and Supplemental Instruction (SI) program.

The College Reading and Learning Association renewed the International Tutor Training Program Certification (ITTPC), and the University of Missouri-Kansas City recertified the University’s SI program.

The ITTPC needs to be renewed every five years and the SI program certification needs to be renewed every three years. Assis-

tant Director of Academic Support Kirk Skoglund underwent the process of renewing the certification.

“For both of them, there are certain requirements, I compiled the needed documents and submitted them for review through the respective organizations,” Skoglund said. “For ITTPC Certification, we must show evidence of at least 10 hours of training at each level in specific topics, tutors are observed frequently, they gain at least 25 hours of experience and we have a selection criteria.”

ITTPC provides credibility to a tutoring program by setting in-

ternationally respected guidelines for training. It eases the transition for tutors who transfer from one certified university to another, negating the need for additional training or an in-depth assessment of a new tutor’s abilities.

Although the ITTPC and the SI certification are issued by separate organizations, the process of recertification and standards are similar.

“For SI certification, we needed to show evidence that we have SI Leaders plan, that we observe session frequently, that we have ongoing and initial training in best

practices, that faculty members support the program and that our data is consistent with the model,” Skoglund said.

The SI program allows students who have recently and successfully completed a typically challenging course to retake the course and lead study sessions over the course content.

“Since 1973, the data supporting the effectiveness of this model have remained consistent; on average, students who regularly attend SI sessions earn a half to a full letter grade higher and earn D’s, F’s, and withdraw from courses less

frequently than students who do not attend SI sessions,” according to the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Junior Broc Sorensen is an education major and an SI instructor for Introduction to American Government and Politics. He said being an SI instructor has helped him during his time at Northwest and will continue to help him after graduation.

“Being a part of a national certified SI program has really benefited my own preparation and study skills for my own classes,” Sorensen said. “The techniques

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# SAC fall concert to feature country artist Chase Rice

MADI NOLTE  
Missourian Reporter | @Mnoelolte

As students undergo the stress of upcoming finals week, they have one big campus event remaining to look forward to get their mind off studying, if only for the night.

The Student Activities Council will welcome country music singer-songwriter Chase Rice to Bearcat Arena, Friday as part of his “Lambs & Lions Tour.”

Haeley Vaughn will take the stage as the first opener at 7 p.m. followed by alternative indie rock artist Billy Raffoul and finally Chase Rice.

The decision to bring Rice to Northwest was made following a survey SAC sent out to students in the spring asking for input on who to bring to Northwest this fall.

SAC Concert Director Ali Stott said student feedback showed American rapper Lil Dicky as the top choice.

Stott said Lil Dicky turned down SAC’s offer to come and perform at Northwest because he was taking a break from touring.

A close second choice by students was Chase Rice, who accepted SAC’s offer to perform at Northwest for roughly \$110,000.

SAC President, Drake Summers said this amount includes actual payment of the performer, production costs, agent fees, hospitality and food costs.

Most years, SAC typically hosts one concert per semester, with the exception of last spring.

One question on many students’ minds is whether SAC will continue this new trend or go back to a concert per semester.

“There are no plans to have a spring concert this year,” Summers said. “We do our absolute best to accommodate the wants of the student body and a “one con-

cert per year” strategy is the best way to do that.”

Summer said hosting a single concert per fiscal year allows SAC to bring in a bigger-named artist. Stott reassures the Northwest community having one concert per year is not due to a lack of money or other issues.

“We had plans to do one last spring,” Stott said. “But it didn’t work out because Sigma Society had one and we didn’t want to do conflicting events that might take away from each other.”

As of Thursday Nov. 30, Stott thought about half of the 2,400 available concert tickets had sold, with radio ads just starting. In the last two weeks, Stott said they have seen an increase in sales since the conclusion of football season.

“A silver lining for us now that the football season is over is that ticket sales have and will likely keep a steady pace until the day of the concert,” Summers said.

If the football team had still been playing, the semifinal game would have been away, the day after the concert.

Money from tickets sold goes directly back to SAC to help break even with concert costs.

Money received by SAC to fund events comes from the \$3 per credit hour student activity fee all undergraduate and graduate students pay with tuition. The fee has not seen an increase since it started in 2005.

“It’s kind of where we get our ‘by the students, for the students’ slogan,” Stott said. “Students are able to take the money they’ve been paying and plan these events for everyone else to participate in, so everyone can feel included.”

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SUBMITTED | NW MISSOURIAN  
Comedian, actor, and motivational speaker, Corey Craig, visited Northwest Nov. 28 to explain how he made his career.

## Corey Craig cracks up audience

CORALIE HERTZOG  
A&E Reporter | @CoffeeGilmore97

Comedian, actor, motivational speaker, Corey Craig wears many hats. However, the one he is most proud of is troublemaker.

Craig came to Northwest Nov. 28 to explain how he made a career out of being a hyperactive punk.

“We invited Corey because we knew he would make an impact on this campus,” Lecture Director Asma Hassan said. “A few members of the (SAC) executive board attended the NACA conference where he presented his speech. We knew from then on his story would impact and inspire the University.”

Through self deprecating jokes, dancing and personal anecdotes about playing basketball with Adam Sandler, Craig spoke about how he lashed out at the world

during his middle school and high school years.

He contributed most of it to the loss of his father when he was six-years-old. He spoke about his introduction to theater through improv.

“At first, with the humor being used, I was unsure of how much I would get out of the speaker,” sophomore Vivian Partridge said. “But he turned out to balance humor and inspiration very well. It was entertaining to hear the stories he shared about his past self as a troublemaker, but also grounding to hear how he overcame his struggles.”

A big point in Craig’s presentation was the need for people to have goals.

“It’s time to unite and encourage one another to reach our potential and succeed at life,” Craig wrote on his website troublemakerfoundation.org.

Craig started the foundation with the purpose to inspire others to reach their goals.


This consists of three steps: accept, empower and achieve.

The first step, accept, is about owning who you are and who you want to be.

“At the Troublemaker Foundation, we believe the first step is looking in the mirror and fully accepting who you are,” Craig wrote on the foundation’s website. “No matter what label you have been associated with, tell that person in the mirror that they are worthy, incredible and unique, just the way they are. If you believe it, so will others.”

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# Comicon conning fans to meet celebrities



CORIE HERTZOG  
Opinion Columnist  
@CoffeeGilmore

I admit it: I am a huge nerd. I love superheroes, anime, cosplaying, all of it.

What I don't like, however, is how people who run conventions take advantage of their customers.

Jason Momoa, an actor known for his roles in "Stargate: Atlantis," "Game of Thrones" and "Justice League," is attending Kansas City's biggest comic convention, Planet Comic Con, in February. Sadly, many of his fans, such as myself, won't be able to meet him unless we want to pay \$200.

This doesn't even cover cost of admission to the convention.

This money is going toward his appearance fee, security costs and pay for the professional picture you would get. However a lot of fans don't have \$200 to drop on a picture and an autograph.

They would probably make more money if they lowered the price so more fans could afford to meet Momoa.

I get passions can cost a lot of money. My last cosplay, Blake from "RWBY," cost me well over \$100 which is still on the low end of the spectrum. My next two cosplays, the two outfits of Heather Chandler in "Heathers: the Musical," combined cost over \$170.

Some costumes can be worth thousands of dollars, especially if hand made. It would be reasonable to assume us nerds don't always have a lot of spare change for getting pictures.

While there will be other guests there, it will still cost fans money to get a picture with people such as Matthew Lewis, known for is role as Neville Longbottom in "Harry Potter," or Michael Rooker who has been on "Walking Dead" and "Guardians of the Galaxy."

At my very first convention I got to meet the cast of my favorite show, "RWBY." I was thrilled, however I only got pictures with two cast members since it cost \$20 a photo. While this is more reasonable than Momoa's \$200 picture fee, it still feels like a stab in the gut.

I love conventions and I love the content these people work on, but it's hard to show this love when I would have to drain my savings account to meet them.

For those who aren't into the comic con scene it's easy to say we shouldn't spend so much on costumes or on the merchandise there, but it's not so simple.

It's how we show our admirations, much like how sports fans buy hats and jerseys of their favorite teams and players.

I understand this is part of how the actors and creators get paid for their jobs, but it still hurts their fans. Especially younger fans who have to rely on their parents' money to go.

Nothing in life should be free, but the people in charge of comic cons need to understand the people who are attending work blue collar jobs, are college students and younger kids.

\$200 on top of admissions is a ridiculous amount to ask for people to meet their favorite superhero.



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COLIN VAUGHN | NW MISSOURIAN

## OUR VIEW:

# Tax reform raises real concern

Lately it seems plenty of debatable bills are being passed or not passed through Congress.

From forgotten deadlines for low income children, insurance to net neutrality, Congress has had their fingers busy signing bill after bill, and the latest is the new tax reform bill effective in 2019.

The big questions are 'Are these new tax cuts beneficial to everyone?' and 'Why was it passed so quickly with little to no notice to the public?'

While the bill was passed in with the idea it would decrease the national deficit and increase the tax cut for low and middle class individuals and families, it's a dark road for current and future graduate students.

For this reform to work, the bill proposes adding an additional tax to the tuition of graduate students, claiming their school tuition as income.

And as we all know, no college student, undergrad or graduate, can afford to pay the taxes of a \$10,000 to \$20,000 income while making slightly above minimum wage.

This tax reform will only make it harder, even impossible, for some students to further their education. What is more worrisome is the shady tactics of the Republican house to achieve this congressional victory.

In an article by Tony Nitti, a Forbes magazine contributor, he says Senate Finance Committee Leader wrote a 515 page proposal for the tax reform, yet failed to publish the reform until Nov. 21.

It is hard to believe the committee thoroughly reviewed the proposal, of 515 pages, in a matter

of two weeks.

To further the shady suspicions, Nitti says the bill, referred to as HR-1, was published in late evening, but voted on the next morning, giving little to no time for journalists or the public to review and comment on the bill.

Congress' lack of professionalism in 2017 has reached an all time high. Sen. Jon Tester, democratic senator of Montana, posted his disappointment and disapproval of the bill to his Twitter page last week.

In the posted video, Tester is seen exposing the approved tax reform with hand-written and quiet illegible amendments and revisions along the margins of the page. Our legislative leaders felt a vital and enormous tax reform that will affect the entire nation was worthy of chicken scratch re-

visions and nearly secretive approvals.

This fact is frankly horrifying and appalling. These are the hands we have left our nation in, but are we completely out of options for solutions?

It seems we are in a losing battle between our citizens and our leaders. We will only see changes if we become more attentive of who we are voting into these positions of power. Researching state senators and house representatives is the first logical step.

We must be active in our government if we want to see changes. Nov. 6 2018, 33 of the 100 senatorial seats will be up for the grabbing. We need to prepare now for the most deserving individuals to hold those spaces.

Let's actually make America great, for everyone.

# Retail workers often feel the brunt of holiday aggravation



JAMES CHRISTENSEN  
Opinion Columnist  
@jameschris1701

The holidays mean one thing, countless hours spent shopping for the 30 seconds of pure joy on Christmas day. While it may be fun to go shopping, keep in mind there is a group of people there almost everyday that you might not notice.

The people who work in the Targets, Walgreens and malls work tireless hours to guarantee the best shopping experience for their customers. I have been a cashier for Walmart going on a little over four years now and this is the season I dread to go home to.

This season is filled with endless hours of dealing with downright rude and disrespectful customers who want to do nothing more than jump on someone's case because the store was out of the one thing they needed.

You would not believe how many times I have been degraded by customers because we were out of the one very specific princess doll every nine year old girl has been asking for since June. Now normally I can handle this sort of thing, but when it is coming from multiple customers on multiple days it is more draining than anything else.

The holidays are meant to represent a time of giving and it seems like every single year we seem to lose this meaning and it becomes an 'I want this, get me that show'. This greedy attitude turns some of the nicest people I have ever had as customers into some of the rudest and horrible examples of Americans during the holiday season.

While it is nice to shop in the bigger chain stores where it is more likely to find the item you are looking for, shopping on a smaller scale can be more fun and easier for those of us working in retail. The small businesses of this country are honestly more fun to shop at.

As a retail worker, I normally work a 40 hour work week during the holiday season, but it feels more like 100 hours of hard labor. The stress of seeing lines extending from your register all the way back to the electronics section are enough to give me a mild panic attack.

The stress placed on retail workers during the holiday season turns this season of joy into one of dread and hate of everything that surrounds the holiday. Although there is one thing that typically cheers me up during my shifts and is not my lunch break which is a close second. When just one customer is kind to me or just treats me like a human being, it makes me feel like a real person in the midst of the mundane tasks that are relegated to the cashiers.

So, my final thought on this matter is the golden rule my mother taught me when I was younger. Treat others the way you want to be treated and be kind to those of us working in retail during the holiday season.

## STAFF

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RACHEL ADAMSON | NW MISSOURIAN

The Maryville Chamber of Commerce hosted its third annual Christmas parade Dec. 1 through the streets of Maryville.

# Maryville’s annual Christmas parade turns town into a winter wonderland

RACHEL ADAMSON

Chief Reporter | @racheladamsonxi

The Maryville Chamber of Commerce hosted its third annual Christmas parade Dec. 1.

The parade was in Downtown Maryville starting at Second Street and Main Street and ending at Franklin Park where Winter Wonderland was being held.

Winter Wonderland is put on by Maryville Parks and Recreation and has been a longstanding tradition.

Maryville Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lily White said there were about 40 to 45 floats in the parade.

“It’s something we use to have all our Chamber businesses be highlighted, get them in front of the public and just build some excitement,” White said.

According to White, this year’s parade went better in comparison to previous years.

“This year (the parade) definitely grew,” White said. “I think

we had more excitement around the parade. People were excited about some of the new stuff like live camels. It was really exciting for us to add the religious reasons behind Christmas. I think it went really well and we are really happy about it.”

Northwest’s Sigma Society put on a kid’s zone before and after the parade at Franklin Park. The kid’s zone had several activities for the kids to participate in; cookie decorating, pin the nose on the snowman, Grinch ball toss, letters to Santa, ornament making and face painting.

Junior Lillian Flanery volunteered with Sigma Society to help make this event possible.

“We assisted in this event because we wanted to give back to our community,” Flanery said. “This event is so special to the city of Maryville, we wanted to give the kids some fun things to do. We also had it brought to our attention that we could be of assistance, so we took the opportunity and ran

with it.”

Junior Madison Weaver walked in the Christmas parade with the Maryville Dance Academy. All competition teams, recreational classes, teachers and parents also walked with the dance academy.

“I personally love walking with the little ones that are two to five years old,” Weaver said. “They are so animated and love every second of what they are doing. It really makes the atmosphere more fun when you know how much fun they are having.”

According to Flanery, her favorite of this event was getting to work with the kids.

“By far my favorite was painting faces,” Flanery said. “Watching their eyes light up and then giggle with excitement over a snowflake, reindeer or Santa beard I painted on their face was so rewarding for me. I just love kids and it’s so awesome to see them in their prime and enjoying themselves.”

## ROADWORK CONTINUED FROM A1

Maryville is planning to resurface or upgrade virtually every street in town that has gone without fresh pavement for at least 10 years, and this year will tackle a large portion of this goal. According to McDanel, the current project will be divided up into two parts with \$250,000 of the budget going towards concrete panel replacements and \$1.25 million will be allocated to asphalt mill and overlay.

According to Goodall this year will be one of the first years the city has undertaken such a large amount of concrete road repairs but believes it is a much needed project.

“We are also looking at quarter

million dollars for concert repairs and we have a lot of our concrete streets that are starting to have a lot of failing issues in different areas and we have identified a large portion of those,” Goodall said. “We will use that money for concrete repair and get some of those streets repair and hopefully start building for concrete repairs every year.”

Maryville tries to repair streets every year as it is often a high priority for Maryville citizens to have safe streets.

“When talking to citizens the highest priorities are always street conditions,” McDanel said. “It is always making sure the streets are safe and convenient to drive on so they are updated for maintenance quite often.”

While a road work project is

done every year the 2018 project will be the most expansive project to date Goodall stated it was much needed for many of the roads.

“We are just looking for major improvements on our city streets,” Goodall said. “We’ve done a lot asphalt overlay in the past few years it is definitely improved our overall system but we also still have a lot of streets that are in need of some dire improvements and this will also just make for a lot nicer streets in town.”

For McDanel, this expansive project would not have been possible without the support of Maryville citizens.

“We appreciate the citizens supporting us with a vote for a renewal of our capital improvement sales tax allowing us to do this project,” McDanel said.

## TAXES CONTINUED FROM A1

“So all your tuition would become income if the house bill passes,” Fufa said. “They are making school very hard to attend.”

Fufa stated the bill will also be damaging to younger individuals because the task of paying off and working on this new bill will fall on them.

“This new bill raises the question of who is going to pay for all of this?” Fufa said. “And that will fall on the future generations and the young people and they will be faced with deciding between cutting taxes or other benefits because of this.”

The U.S. federal budget deficit for 2018 is \$440 billion and while compared to previous years the job market is growing, supporters of the bill believed that by giving tax breaks and more money to the upper class they would be invest in the job market and boost the economy.

However, Fufa noted many of those who benefited from the tax cuts simply invested their money instead of putting it back into the economy like lawmakers had hoped they’d do.

“(Republicans) are hoping the money will be invested in the U.S. economy and that they will create jobs,” Fufa said. “They will raise the wage rates and use the economic growth and revenue to pay the deficit. But there is no budget out there that will be enough money to get what they want because right now they have \$1.5 trillion in the account and they can use it to do what they would like to.”

According to Fufa most of the money gained from the tax cuts will instead be placed in stock holdings.

“When researchers looked into this a couple of weeks ago and asked those holding the money what they were planning to do with it, only a small percentage said they were planning to put it back in the job market,” Fufa said.

“Instead, most of the money will go to Wall Street and just put it in their stock instead of investing in job-creating activities.”

According to CNN under this new tax bill, lawmakers are looking for a way to fund the new tax benefits made by cuts to government ran programs such as Medicaid, Medicare and social security benefits all of which are aimed to help lower class citizens.

According to the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, in 2017 Medicaid provided health and long-term care coverage to more than 977,000 people in Missouri. While Medicare in 2016 provided health care and benefits to over 1,135,000 elderly people in Missouri and around 46,640 people in Missouri received social security benefits.

Fufa stated the funding cuts for programs meant to help the poor will likely not stop at this newest tax bill because people will still be expected to pay off the bill and if no money is available often programs meant to help the lower class are the first to be cut.

“In the long run you are putting more on the shoulders of future generation because somebody has to pay,” Fufa said. “The only way to pay off the cost will be to reduce government expenditure and tighten the benefits for the poor even more by cutting things like Social Security taxes for retirees or things like Medicare.”

While Senate members were only given a day to look over the document, Fufa also believes everyone else should have also been given the opportunity to see and assess the new bill before it was put into effect.

“It’s a pretty tough, you know, when you talk about tax policies because they affect everybody in this country,” Fufa said. “They should have discussed with the lawmakers, economist, as well as with the general public because this is something that is going to affect everyone just not a few Senate Republican members.”

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# Blotters for the week of Jan. 19

## Maryville Public Saftey Department

Nov. 24

A summons was issued to **Alexander Snow**, 21, from Graham for possession of marijuana at the 1600 block of South Main Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for identity theft at the 200 block of West 12th Street.

Nov. 25

A summons was issued to **Rich-**

**ard Rowlett**, 46, for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest at the 1100 block of East Fifth Street.

Nov. 26

A summons was issued **Andrew Faustlin**, 20, from Ravenwood for driving while suspended and failure to illuminate headlamps.

Nov. 29

A summons was issued to **Jason Phelps**, 35, from Lamoni, Iowa for city code violation.

## Northwest Missouri State University Police Department

Nov. 20

There was a closed investigation for liquor law violation at Millikan Hall.

Nov. 29

A summons was issued to **Matthews Desmond**, 22, for warrant arrest at the University Police Department.

View all the blotters at  
nwmissourinews.com



DIVERSIONS

Paranormal Inactivity



COLIN VAUGHAN | NW MISSOURIAN

PET OF THE WEEK

TOBY STOTT



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Likes

Snuggles  
His Squeaky Ball  
Long Walks on the Beach

Dislikes

Freaking Squirrels  
Being Alone  
Going "Night-Night" in his Crate

Favorite TV Show

America's Funniest Home Videos

Life Quote

"I will find you... and I will lick you"  
-Anonymous

CROSSWORD

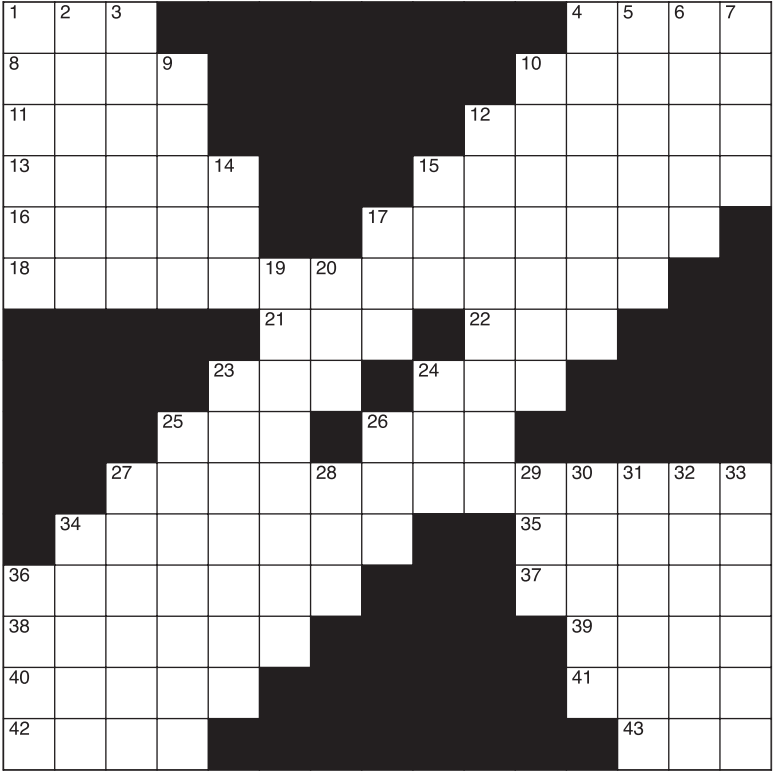
By MetroCreative

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Female deer
- 4. Unfashionable people
- 8. Entranceway
- 10. Courteous
- 11. Level
- 12. Deli meat
- 13. Details
- 15. Stole
- 16. A genus of bee
- 17. Expressed as digits
- 18. Your child's daughter
- 21. \_\_\_ and flow
- 22. Small amount
- 23. Revolutions per minute
- 24. Criticize
- 25. Snake-like fish
- 26. Cooling mechanism
- 27. Inquiry
- 34. Engage in political activity
- 35. The lowest adult male singing voice
- 36. Endings
- 37. Irises
- 38. The highest parts
- 39. Kimono sashes
- 40. Bewilders
- 41. Mentally healthy
- 42. Used to traverse snow
- 43. Inflamed

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Adventurous
- 2. Deliverer of speeches
- 3. Skin condition



- 4. Widened
- 5. James Cameron film
- 6. The 3rd letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- 7. Moved along a surface
- 9. Pharmacological agent
- 10. Charity
- 12. Seeing someone famous
- 14. Not happy
- 15. Farm animal
- 17. Give a nickname to
- 19. Uses up
- 20. Type of missile (abbr.)
- 23. Criticizes

- 24. Midwife
- 25. Entwined
- 26. Supervises interstate commerce
- 27. A way to convert
- 28. Female sibling
- 29. TV network
- 30. Tropical Asian plant
- 31. Line on a map
- 32. Denotes songbirds
- 33. Made publicly known
- 34. He devised mud cleats for football
- 36. Trends

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#ICYMI

Charlotte Lindqvist, a biologist who specializes in bears, has determined that the Yeti is nothing more than a bear that is native to the Asian region. Lindqvist believes that the Yeti DNA is similar to the common brown bear and split from the main bear population roughly eight thousand years ago. There is still a possibility that there might be Bigfoot or a Yeti out there, but at the moment science says no.

SUDOKU

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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

9	2	5	1	8	6	3	4	7
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7	3	8	9	2	4	6	5	1
6	1	9	8	7	5	2	3	4
5	8	4	2	1	3	9	7	6
2	7	3	6	4	9	1	8	5
8	9	7	4	6	2	5	1	3
3	5	6	7	9	1	4	2	8
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ALEXIS GEISERT | NW MISSOURIAN

Sylvia Brand has been a Residential Assistant in Millikan Hall the past three years, and feels the job is one of the many turning points in her life.

# Sylvia Brand

*Northwest senior turns tragedy into positivity*

MICHAEL CRIFE

A&E Editor | @MikeCripe

"I always wanted to help and impact people," senior Sylvia Brand said. "I think it took me two years to realize that while I loved art, I wasn't passionate about it. I was passionate about helping."

Brand, a psychology major, art minor, Green Dot certified, residential assistant (RA) in Millikan Hall, says she has always been laser focused on helping others in any way she can manage. Making selflessness a focal point in her life wasn't necessarily a conscious decision though, as it mostly comes naturally to Brand.

The part of her efforts to make a change that don't come naturally stem from learning from past

opened to another one of the residents who had been living on the floor. As she began to ask the room full of police officers and her sister questions, Officer Merrill stepped in and explained the accident was back home, not at school.

"Then Morgan told me that our brother Alex was dead and that he had killed himself," Brand said. "My world stopped. This was the kid who was smiley and happy-go-lucky. He had been my best friend for most of my life. All I could think was 'No, no. Not our Alex. That couldn't happen.'"

It was at this point Brand learned her sister, Zoe, was the one who found her brother, and their parents had been away from home when everything happened. Her

event she refers to as somewhat of a turning point of positivity.

"I was originally an alternate, and I was devastated," Brand said. "But on July 28, I got a voicemail saying they wanted me to join their team. I still have the voicemail saved because it was this huge turning point in my life."

Senior Breanna Kass, a biology: biomedical sciences major and RA at Perrin Hall, is quick to hold up claims supporting Sylvia's caring nature.

"I admire Sylvia's compassion for others," Kass said. "No matter what it may be or who it is, she will always be there to listen when you need someone to talk to. She is so encouraging and supportive, I know that whenever I need a friend to talk to, she'll be there."

Brand says she recognizes her time as an RA has given her annual opportunities to make impact after impact on new students for the past three years. This position also gives her an even greater feeling of home away from home thanks to the new friendships she has been able to make at Northwest Brand is from St. Joseph and she had family attend Northwest before, but now in her senior year of college, she has found a family of her own.

Junior Tristan Smith, criminology major with an emphasis on adult systems and assistant complex director for Forest Village Apartments, says Sylvia has always been there for him, and as a result, she is one of his best friends. He says anyone who doesn't know Sylvia should take the chance to talk with her if the opportunity arises.

"We met in 2015, when I was a freshman in Millikan Hall where she was an RA. She was always asking everyone how their day was, and starting conversation with anyone," Smith said. "We became friends when she saw me leaving the residence hall really late one night because of an emergency and gave me her number



SUBMITTED

It was not until after Alex's passing when Sylvia found her interest in psychology growing while the interest in her previous major, graphic design, subsided.

major, graphic design, subsided. Brand and her family had discovered Alex had almost every symptom of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE) from his years of high school football. This discovery and the nature of Alex's death helped steer Brand toward a direction of aiding those with mental health issues, in hopes of making a difference in any way she can.

Now in the last leg of her undergraduate college career, Brand plans on moving closer to the coast in order to expand her knowledge of psychology to greater lengths than she could have dreamed.

"Midwest life is great, but when it comes to psychology, it is something we are just now starting to accept and believe," Brand said. "It has just been frowned upon. On the coast, it is more accepted."

with her newfound knowledge.

"The end goal is to come back to the Midwest and practice in the Midwest just because I know it's an area where psychology is needed," Brand said. "Experiencing what I've experienced, especially when it comes to mental health, I know how much it's needed here. But it's going to take someone from here to make a difference."

Brand knows there is desperate need for psychology in the midwest because of what she went through with her brother.

"Alex pushed my need to help others," Brand said. "I think it took him to make me realize that if I can make a difference in one person, then in a roundabout way, Alex is making a difference in someone's life too."

Brand says Alex and what she



SUBMITTED

Brand expects to move around the country after graduating from Northwest. She hopes that through gaining a wealth of experiences from different places will give her something positive she can bring back to the Midwest.

experiences.

These experiences Brand speaks about mostly stem from events that took place during her college life. She says because of these experiences, she doesn't care if she only impacts one person, because she is all too familiar with the ripple effects one person can make.

When thinking back on the most difficult one of these experiences, Brand can only think of one word: Alex.

"It was my freshmen year, just a regular Wednesday," Brand said. "I was heading down to say good-night to my sister Morgan, but instead of her opening the door when I knocked, it was Officer Staples, Officer Merrill and the hall director. Morgan was there crying too, and they told me that there had been an accident."

At this point, Brand had begun to assume something had hap-

parents had been on their way to stop by Northwest, say hi to their two daughters, drop off some food and be on their way.

"After they got there we immediately drove home, speeding the entire time," Brand said. "There are parts of that night that will never leave me. Hearing the sound of my mother finding out, standing in the driveway sobbing. I remember just feeling numb."

As traumatic as the loss of her brother had been at the time, Brand says his passing brought things she had never expected. She says she had never been to many funerals, but always associated them with being sad, down times. However, her brother's funeral turned into a worship service of sorts, offering a surprising amount of positivity.

Within the next year, Brand would go on to secure her position as an RA in Millikan Hall, an

“Alex pushed my need to help others. I think it took him to make me realize that if I can make a difference in one person, then in a roundabout way, Alex is making a difference in someone’s life too.”  
-Sylvia Brand

and 'ordered' me to tell her when I got home. We have been friends ever since."

This is just one example of Brand's selflessness expressed through reaching out to others.

It was not until after Alex's passing when Sylvia found her interest in psychology growing while the interest in her previous

The need to escape the roots of home is a feeling that lies in many who have lived in one place most of their lives. Brand, on the other hand, is taking a different approach to leaving home for the coast. She says the time she hopes to spend away from home will only serve as time to learn, so that she can return

went through her senior year has made her a better person and RA.

In any way she can, Brand is sure to impact anyone she comes across in the future. There is little doubt that while she goes on to inform and educate the Midwest on psychology and mental health, Alex will be there every step of the way.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# Annual Holiday Tree Lighting lifts spirits

**MEKA WRIGHT**  
Chief Reporter | @\_yafavredhead\_

As the chill of the night settled in, the familiar faces of Maryville huddled together to celebrate the holidays. Cheer and joyfulness radiated through the crowd. Children played between the trees, and peered between their parents’ legs with contagious laughter. Warm welcomes and greeting rang as old friends reconnect for the holiday season.

It was the perfect moment for the Holiday Tree Lighting Dec. 1 at the Thomas J. Gaunt House.

As everyone gathered around the 60-foot Black Hills Spruce Tree, President Jasinski gave a welcoming acknowledgement.

As the crowd diligently listened the tree seemed to grow with the crowd’s anticipation. Its lightless branches shook in the wind as the Northwest Spirit & Truth Gospel Choir was introduced for their third campus performance.

Their harmonic choral provoked a soft sway from the crowd, picking up in waves throughout the gathering.

Choir Director Emerald Newton conducted the singers in a harmonic melody of “Joy to the World” and “O Come, All Ye Faithful”.

“O Come, All Ye Faithful was more of a favorite, just because ‘Joy to the World’ was pretty simple,” Newton said. “But ‘O Come, All Ye Faithful’ we could a little bit to it to make it a little more interesting and entertaining.”

Though Newton and the choir enjoyed performing, the night felt pretty stressful.

“To have to sing in front of so many important people is an honor, but it is extremely nerve racking,” Newton said. “That experience was great...with any performance there’s going to be some



MORGAN JONES | NW MISSOURIAN

Northwest hosted its annual tree lighting ceremony at the Thomas J. Gaunt House Dec. 1 to kick off the holiday season.

pressure involved.”

As the evening light disappeared below the horizon, it was soon the moment everyone had been waiting for. As the tree stood tall and blank, the announcement of the coming lighting prompted excited whispers and gasps from adults and children alike. The countdown began... 10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1...

The holiday tree sparked to

life with blue, red and green lights flowing vertically to the ground. A golden star illuminated at the top of the tree. As if rehearsed, the crowd erupted in to song. Deck the Halls poured from every mouth as everyone joined one by one; the song ended in a ringing ‘fa la la la la la la la la.’

The remainder of the chilly night was accompanied by steaming hot chocolate and delicious

holiday treats. Students and children lined the perimeter of the Thomas Gaunt House patio; waiting for photoshoots with Bobby the Bearcat. Sophomore Lexie Fitch enjoyed the hot chocolate and pretzels for warmth.

“I’m so glad I stopped by tonight,” Fitch said. “I love coming together with the community during the holidays. It feels like family.”

Being her first time viewing

the ninth annual tree lighting ceremony, she was surprised at the amount of people that arrived.

“I didn’t realize that the whole community comes to see the lights turn on,” Fitch said. “I saw familiar faces of students and staff, but I also saw people that I never met before.”

The evening wind down as the community mingled outside and through the house, creating the perfect beginning to the holiday season.

## Theatre Northwest aims to challenge social norms during Stop Kiss

**JAMES CHRISTENSEN**  
Chief Reporter | @jameschris1701

One moment, one kiss can define a group’s struggle to be accepted. The Northwest Theatre Department did this during their presentation of “Stop Kiss”, the shows Dec. 1 and Dec. 2 in the Ron Houston Studio Theatre.

The show entitled “Stop Kiss” written by Diana Son focuses on two women in New York City and how they eventually develop feelings for one another. Samantha Ruiz, a senior speech and theater education major with an English education minor, was the director and was introduced to this play a few years ago.

“The script was recommended to me by my professor, Kathryn Bilbo, three years ago, and I fell absolutely in love with it,” Ruiz said. “It covers a topic that is near and dear to my heart, and I wanted so passionately to create a piece of

art that shared the message of acceptance and understanding of the perceived ‘other.’”

The two main characters were Callie, played by senior technical theater major Nataleigh Brull, and Sara, played by sophomore technical theater major with a minor in public history Brenna Michels-Gates.

Michels-Gates spent a long time preparing for her role.

“I spent a lot of time thinking about who Sara was as a person,” Michels-Gates said. “I spent a lot of time making specific character choices that aren’t necessarily revealed during the show but they helped me become the character of Sara. I spent a lot of time reading over the script and asking myself why she said certain lines, and thinking about how Sara reacts to other people’s lines.”

Michels-Gates, as well as her five fellow castmates, gave two

eye opening performances to the public. The studio theater added to whole message of the play and made the audience use their imaginations, it added to the experience for all of the audience members.

This play is not only a source of entertainment, but it is also a platform that can be used to discuss the issues of identity and human rights. In accordance with the Theatre Northwest theme for the 2017-2018 academic year, this show gives the audience a chance to discuss the ideas behind identity and how those identities can sometimes face conflict in the current social and political climates of our country.

Ruiz believed the message of Stop Kiss that she wanted audience members to remember when they leave is on of love.

“I want the audience to view this show with an open mind and an open heart; I want them to leave with a challenged and expanded mindset,” Ruiz said.

Stop Kiss also featured an after the show discussion with members of the cast and crew as well as representatives from the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. This discussion was where audience members were able to ask questions and gain a deeper understanding of what the actors thought



SUBMITTED

The Northwest Theatre Department performed “Stop Kiss” by Diana Son Dec. 1 and Dec. 2 in the Ron Houston Studio Theatre.

about the key issues presented in the show and how they prepared to play their respective roles.

Overall according to both Ruiz and Michels-Gates, the play was an unqualified success. Michels-Gates wants everyone that attended the

show to remember this important message going forward.

“Never forget that you deserve respect and love in this world,” Michels Gates said. “Never forget that you are valid as a human. Never forget that you are not alone.”

## THE STROLLER: Your Bearcat wants you to embrace a cozy fashion sense during finals season

It’s the special time of year where nothing makes sense: finals season.

It’s cold outside and you want to be comfy as you pull an all nighter at the library. Your trusty pair of leggings begin to smell of the holiday coffee you bought at Starbucks and accidentally spilled on yourself two days ago because you haven’t bothered to do laundry yet.

It’s hard to be fashionable during finals week, but your style shouldn’t get an F from lack of effort while you’re studying for an A in Gen Bio.

For this round of Fall Finals Fashion, the effortless look is in.

Messy hair under a beanie is perfectly chic while also hiding

the fact you haven’t showered since Monday and your scalp is more dry shampoo than actual hair. Or, for those who have showered, a messy bun is always classic.

For clothes, toss on a pair of black leggings and a long sleeved shirt. You’ll want to grab a cute pair of boots too. Not only will this look keep you cozy and warm as you walk to B. D. Owens, but you’ll also look adorable in the Instagram and Snapchat pictures you’ll take instead of actually studying for Eiswert’s philosophy final.

Minimal makeup is also what you’ll need. Forego the winged eyeliner as you’ll want to wipe away the tears you shed the

when you remember you still have two projects due for a Fred Lamer class.

During your finals don’t even bother changing into clothes, but just roll out of bed in your pjs. Not only will this be comfortable as you struggle to remember something Neustatter mentioned before the test, but you’ll also be ready to curl back to sleep afterwards.

Finals are hard, but looking cute while being comfy is easier than a Offutt final.

*The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.*

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JAMES HOWEY | NW MISSOURIAN  
Sophomore guard Tate Oglesby is the leading point scorer for the Spoofhounds three games into the season. Oglesby began the season with a team high 18 points in the opening game of the season.

# Oglesby shines in opening stretch

ANDREW WEGLEY  
Missourian Reporter | @andrew\_wegley21

Perhaps the most impressive facet of Tate Oglesby's dynamic start to the 2017 Maryville boys basketball season is how unlikely it seems in retrospect. Not many would have expected a sophomore to be the leading point scorer for the Spoofhounds, but three games into the season, Oglesby has emerged as a dominant presence on the court. The sophomore guard began the season with a team high 18 points in the Maryville (2-1) season-opening victory over Savannah. The total amounted to nearly 50 percent of all Spoofhound



scoring in the 42-35 tough fought victory. What makes the performance even more impressive is the fact that Oglesby had been to only one team practice before that first game in Savannah, having just finished a football season that ended with the Spoofhounds capturing the Class 3 State Championship. "It's tough (to make the transition from football), especially coming off a deep run in the play-offs," Oglesby said. "Getting back into condition, into basketball shape, it's tough on us." Oglesby is one of four Maryville basketball players who are in the midst of transitioning from the gridiron to the hardwood. The Spoofhounds' second

matchup resulted in a starkly different outcome than the first. After outlasting Savannah in a defensive battle, the Spoofhounds fell to Platte County 80-70 in a shootout. One constant in the Spoofhounds' differing performances was Oglesby, who led the team in scoring again, this time with a career high 30 points. "I've been pretty successful," Oglesby said. "Being able to score whenever I want and off of drives from my teammates, opening the floor up. It's been alright." The sophomore's hot hand remained scalding in Maryville's third outing, scoring 20 points in a 69-57 win over Bishop LeBlond Nov. 28. Oglesby's 20 points tied with senior Jakob Woods for a

team high in the matchup. Maryville coach Matt Stoecklein has been very impressed with the sophomore's breakout. "I think he's (Oglesby) brought a level of consistency for our scoring," Stoecklein said. "I think we just know on offense when we need a bucket, we go to Tate." Along with his high caliber offense, Oglesby has been a force to reckon with on defense for the Spoofhounds. "He can score 68 points in three games, and then I still have to put him on the best guard on the team," Stoecklein said. "It's just a personality that he has: 'I don't want this guy to score on me.' He's just running all over the place trying to guard the guy he's guarding

and doing the best he can." Oglesby was modest about his own defensive performance so far this season. "My defense has been alright," Oglesby said. "I can make that better, which will lead to more transition buckets on offense. If I just keep working, it'll pay off for me sometimes soon." Despite all the attention his personal performance has garnered, Oglesby focus is on what the Spoofhounds can accomplish as a team. "I just want to be the best I can be this year, and make not only myself but my teammates better," Oglesby said. "With our next five coming off the bench, they're always ready. No matter what, we're deep this year. The sky's the roof."

# Coach Scheel attempts to pinpoint cause of problems

JOSEPH ANDREWS  
Assitant Sports Editor | @Joe\_Andrews15

Though Northwest women's basketball sits in the bottom of the MIAA, it is beginning to show progression. The Bearcats (1-7, 0-2 MIAA) led No. 21 Central Oklahoma (6-1, 1-1 MIAA) through the majority of three quarters Nov. 2. The team's youth showed in the fourth quarter, ending with a 57-53 loss. "It was disappointing to lose that game, but I was not disappointed in their effort and overall execution," coach Buck Scheel said. "To have that to build off of going into the next game is great." Scheel added a lot of the weak close out was related to mental and physical fatigue. Six of its nine athletes played for over 10 minutes. "We can't call a timeout after every possession," Scheel said. "I wish we could with the young group we have. We're still figuring things out." The team feels it can get better through finding its vocal leader. While an athlete can be asked to step up off the court, it does not



necessarily mean it will translate during games. Discovering the right personality could be what the Bearcats need to continue growing as a team. "Right now we're kind of in a situation where maybe some people want to but they're not comfortable yet," Scheel said. "Maybe there are some people that are comfortable and are just not doing it. We have to pinpoint that off the floor to get that to evolve out there on the floor." Northwest travels down Highway 71 for a match up with Missouri Western (7-1, 2-0 MIAA) Dec. 6. For freshmen Mia Stillman, Jaylen Haggard and junior Mallory McAndrews it is a chance to compete in their hometown. While Northwest previously competed at the Looney Complex Arena in an invitational Nov. 24-25, Haggard and Stillman will be competing against the Griffons for the first time. McAndrews has experienced the environment three separate times. She added it is a special feeling to play in her hometown. "It's awesome," McAndrews said. "I love going down there to play. It's a big motivator, I think."

NEXT GAME
Northwest at Central Missouri Dec. 10 @ 1:30 p.m.

Like Northwest, Missouri Western entered the season with several new faces to its program. So far, its nine new faces have fit well into the program. The Griffons have already had one reason to celebrate this season, as coach Rob Admission earned his 500th career win. Scheel added Missouri Western is still working to connect the right pieces together. "They still have a lot of girls that are figuring out his system and being on the floor with new teammates and stuff like that," Scheel said. "That takes time, but they've shown a lot of growth game by game for them." The Bearcats sit as the last place team in the MIAA. As time continues, the team expects to continue connecting pieces until it finds itself in the win column. Results from the Dec. 6 match up with Missouri Western were not available upon publication. Visit nwmissourianews.com for a recap.



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# Mental trial sits ahead of `Hounds

TRENT SPINNER

Chief Reporter I @trentspinner

While finals are approaching for Maryville High School, the Spoofhound wrestlers have more than enough on their mind as they gear up for weight cutting season.



The beginning of the wrestling season is around the corner and with that comes the hydration tests and body weight evaluations.

Both of these tests bring the challenge of accountability throughout the wrestling room or as coach Kody Koster likes to put it, “I can bring a camel to water, but I can’t make him drink.”

The hydration test is a crucial check up to see where wrestlers water intake levels are at. The more important of the two is the body weight evaluations.

These provide the game plan for the rest of the year, as it tells a healthy amount of weight that can be lost by each wrestler, and with that comes a cloudy mindset.

“The weights aren’t set yet, but the guys kinda know what they are going to and what the fat testing and hydration testing are kinda telling them,” Koster said. “I’m not a huge guy on cutting weight. If a kid wants to wrestle a certain weight, I’m fine with that; if someone wants to cut, they have to live with that, but I’ll be there for them and I’ll let them know that.”

A positive mentality throughout the year can be the difference between success and failure on the mats. While the young guys may get down on themselves as weight loss sinks heavily into their brains, there are more than enough sources of inspiration to push them through.

“These guys will just have to try and get them to realize that although it sucks now, later when you’re at districts and your at a

NEXT GAME
Maryville vs Bedford, Lenox @
Lenox High School
Dec. 9 @ 10 a.m.

good weight that you can compete at, it feels good,” senior Jacob Search said. “It’s so much better when you can do that and you’re able to make it to state even though you had to suffer.”

Spoofhound wrestling and Koster will travel to Lenox High School in Lenox, Iowa for the inaugural tournament to the 2017-2018 Maryville wrestling season Dec. 9. The Spoofhounds will face off against an array of Iowa and Missouri schools including: Bedford and Lenox to name a couple.

As the Spoofhounds travel up north to this tournament, it will prove to be a testament of their youths’ success.

“We’re going to be missing a few guys, some of the seniors are going to be taking the ACT’s and I tell these guys school is the most important,” Koster said. “So it’s going to be kind of a younger group up in Lenox and I’m kinda excited to see how they do wrestling in a varsity competition and see where they’re at.”

The key to establishing a quality wrestling program is through the youth of the team and Koster understands that more than most. So even as young guys are struggling to drop the weight they need or even the veteran guys, Koster will continue to put a smile on his face and bring the atmosphere into a positive light.

“He has brought a great energy to the room and he’s very smart, very intelligent when it comes to wrestling,” Search said. “He pushes us very hard and I think that is going to help us in the long run especially being able to go the distance.”



ALEXIS GEISERT | NW MISSOURIAN

Spoonhound wrestler Jacob Search gears up for their first match during practice Dec. 6 by doing strengthening exercises.



TAYLOR JOHNSON | NW MISSOURIAN

Sophomore Alex Koschel warms up during practice Dec. 4. The Bearcats will head to the Charlie Foster Pre-Holiday Classic in Kearney, Nebraska Dec. 8.

## Track and field sets bar with early season provisional mark

JUSTIN QUICK

Chief Reporter I @jquick88

Northwest track and field’s first meet of the season ended with one notch for an NCAA provisional mark.



Junior Kevin Schultz cleared 6-8 ¼ to win the high jump claiming his first provisional mark of the season in Lawrence, Kansas Nov. 2.

Schultz added a personal best in the 60 meter hurdles to his day finishing in 8.62 seconds for ninth place. Assistant coach Emily Peterson said Schultz’s performance stood out.

“He put some things together this weekend,” Peterson said. “He had a huge PR (personal record) in the hurdles by about half a second, which is tremendous.”

In the 4x400 meter relay Schultz along with sophomore Julian Bush, freshman Caelon Harkley and senior Seth Shurvington combined for a time of 3:28.62, giving them fourth place. This was the highest finish of a non-Division I school in this event.

Schultz’s hot start is nothing new, in the 2015-2016 indoor season, he opened with a provisional

mark in the high jump at 6-9. Following a redshirt last year, Schultz says his focus is to not let this meet be high point.

“I hit a big mark my sophomore season before Christmas break,” Schultz said. “Then Christmas break training did not go as well as planned, training overall as well as Christmas break this year is a big factor for this indoor season.”

The Bearcats high level of performance at the Bob Timmons Challenge offers a measuring stick for the rest of the season. With 26 top 10 finishes combined for the men’s and women’s teams, Peterson along with the rest of the coaching staff, has plenty of upside to work with.

“We competed really well,” Peterson said. “Connecting things this early was exciting, but we have a lot more work to do when it comes to jumps, throws and other events.”

On the women’s side of the team, sophomore Haley Craig maintained her performance from the 2016 MIAA Outdoor Championship meet. Craig placed second in the shot put overall and first out of Division II schools. With a throw of 43-4 ½, she fell just two

NEXT GAME
Charlie Foster Pre-Holiday Classic
@ Kearney, Nebraska
Dec. 8-9 All Day

inches short of her MIAA throw of 43-6 ½.

Craig’s consistent throws to open the season come as a relief after a change in throwing style this off-season.

“I transitioned from a glide throw to a spin throw,” Craig said. “So it was way more than I actually expected with the spin just learning it this year. I was happy with the distance at the meet.”

Other standouts for the Bearcat women included a third place finish in the 400 meter dash from sophomore Jordan Hammond, crossing the line in 58.22 seconds. Fellow sophomore Hiba Mahgoub followed Hammond’s lead placing seventh with a time of 58.92.

The Bearcats will have a week to prepare themselves for their next meet in Kearney, Nebraska. The meet will offer a look at conference opponents for the first time this season.

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### NW MEN’S BASKETBALL

MIAA STANDINGS

	Overall	MIAA
NORTHWEST.....	8-0	2-0
Fort Hays State.....	6-2	2-0
Nebraska Kearney.....	5-5	2-0
Central Oklahoma.....	6-2	1-1
Missouri Western.....	3-6	1-1
Central Missouri.....	6-1	0-0
Lindenwood.....	6-1	0-0
Lincoln.....	5-3	0-0
Washburn.....	5-3	0-0
Southwest Baptist.....	4-3	0-0
Emporia State.....	4-4	0-0
Pittsburg State.....	5-4	0-2
Nebraska Kearney.....	3-5	0-2
Missouri Western.....	2-5	0-2

NABC DIVISION II POLLS

	Overall	Points
NORTHWEST.....	8-0	398
Queens (N.C.).....	7-0	375
Bellarmine (Ky.).....	7-0	370
Lincoln Memorial (Tenn).....	7-0	351
Ferris State (Mich).....	10-0	340
Colorado School of Mines....	8-0	323
West Liberty (W. Va).....	7-0	306
West Texas A&M.....	7-0	286
Wheeling Jesuit (W. Va).....	7-0	241
Christian Brothers (Tenn).....	7-0	238
Barry (Fla).....	6-1	236
Le Moyne (N.Y.).....	8-1	197
UT-Permian Basin (Texas).....	7-1	189
UA Fort Smith (Ark).....	9-0	181

### NW WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

MIAA STANDINGS

	Overall	MIAA
Fort Hays State.....	7-0	2-0
Nebraska Kearney.....	8-0	2-0
Missouri Western.....	7-1	2-0
Central Oklahoma.....	6-1	1-1
Northeastern State.....	4-3	1-1
Lindenwood.....	6-0	0-0
Southwest Baptist.....	7-1	0-0
Washburn.....	6-1	0-0
Central Missouri.....	5-1	0-0
Emporia State.....	4-2	0-0
Lincoln.....	3-4	0-0
Pittsburg State.....	6-2	0-2
Missouri Southern.....	1-7	0-2
NORTHWEST.....	1-7	0-2

### MHS BASKETBALL

REGULAR SEASON UPDATE

Boy (2-1)

Next: Worth County at Maryville Dec. 8 6:30 p.m.

Girls (1-3)

Next: Plattsburg at Maryville Dec. 11 6:30 p.m.



# Short-handed boys grab third place

JAMES HOWEY

Chief Reporter | @how\_eyseesit

Spoofhound boys basketball claimed third place at the Savannah Invitational despite being a little shorthanded and working through chemistry issues.



The Spoofhounds (2-1) defeated Bishop LeBlond 69-57 Saturday Dec. 4. Maryville dealt with recently getting four of their main players back from football season.

Senior Jalen Sundell made his season debut in the team's third place victory over the Golden Eagles (1-2) and made a positive impact in the game.

"He made such a big difference to start the game with just his rebounding and presence inside," coach Matt Stoecklein said. "We thought we'd have to rest him more, also, but we didn't."

Stoecklein also praised the toughness of Sundell who was dealing with an injury to his left hand.

"He couldn't even really use his left, and that it doesn't hurt just shows you how tough that kid is," Stoecklein said. "He wanted to play and practice earlier and we said, 'No, we'll wait.'"

The standout player for the Spoofhounds so far has been sophomore Tate Oglesby. Oglesby averaged a team leading 22.6 points and was the lone Maryville player named to the all-tournament. Stoecklein said Oglesby has made strides from the summer to now.

"One thing he has done a better job of now than in the summer is selecting better shots," Stoecklein said. "This summer he tried to

NEXT GAMES
<b>Worth County @ Maryville</b> Dec. 8 @ 6:30 p.m.
<b>East Buchanan @ Maryville</b> Dec. 11 @ 7:30 p.m.

force it right away and he wasn't getting it. Now he is a little bit more patient and moving the ball a little bit more, so he has grown up some since the summer."

Junior Eli Dowis has yet to appear on the court this season. Oglesby added once everyone gets on the court and one the same the page the team will be hard to stop.

"Once we get everybody back and playing, we have anybody that can come off the bench and be a spark," Oglesby said.

Players like sophomore Jaden Hayes and Peyton Frueh have also provided a spark for the team early on both starting and coming off the bench. Stoecklein said he is happy with the performance of those role players so far.

"Jaden Hayes has hit some big shots early on even when he misses the first couple," Stoecklein said. "He and Peyton Frueh have stepped up and I'm very pleased with them."

One of the challenges for the Spoofhounds in the tournament was performing plays and schemes during critical situations their opening three games.

"We would say in the huddle well what can we run for a 3-pointer," Stoecklein said. "We just haven't practiced anything that



JAMES HOWEY | NW MISSOURIAN

Junior Creid Stoecklein looks for options during the Spoofhounds' 69-57 win over Bishop LeBlond.

much yet and we know the play, but it's tough during live action."

Platte County gave the team their first defeat of the season 80-70. Eighty points is more than Maryville usually gives up and Stoecklein said his team would aim to improve on that end of the floor.

"We should be able to play a team like that... but we're still working on getting in shape together," Stoecklein said. "Obviously man-to-man defense is something we can work on."

Stoecklein did express optimism with how his team has

played early on with the hurdles they have faced.

"We're 2-1 with three practices with almost everyone but not Eli yet," Stoecklein said. "So super proud of that with the teams are going against especially Platte County who had five starting seniors."

# Girls fall short of possible tournament medal



JAMES HOWEY | NW MISSOURIAN

Freshman Serena Sundell qualified for the all-tournament team due to her impressive offensive showings throughout the Savannah tournament.

TUCKER FRANKLIN

Chief Reporter | @tuckerfsports

Maryville girls basketball held its own as they took on competition this past week at the Savannah Invitational tournament.

The Spoofhounds (1-3) found themselves in the third place game against Chillicothe Dec. 2.

Maryville fell behind the eight ball early and weren't able to re-



cover.

Foul trouble for the Spoofhounds led to the Hornets (2-2) outlasting a second half surge from Maryville for a 54-43 final score. Coach Quentin Albrecht explained the tournament left a little more to be desired.

"Well we walked out of that game, I think, a little disappointed," Albrecht said. "I think we all thought we could win it. We got off to a little bit of a slow start, both

NEXT GAME
<b>Plattsburg @ Maryville</b> Dec. 11 @ 6:30 p.m.

offensively and defensively, but all and all I thought our presence in the tournament was a good one. Though the results were not necessarily what we were looking for."

Freshman Serena Sundell found herself on the all-tournament team thanks to her impressive offensive showings in all three games.

Sundell scored 22 points in the first game of the tournament and 24 in the second, showcasing her abilities. Sundell said when the ball is in her hands her mindset is to make the best decision.

"I'm trying to be aggressive but I want to see my teammates and get a good shot," Sundell said. "I don't want to force it every time. I want to be aggressive so if it's there, I'm going to take it."

The aggressiveness has paid off for Sundell so far. Maryville has some valuable time off before taking to the hardwood again.

Albrecht said the time off will prove to help the Spoofhounds in the long run.

"I think it is beneficial coming off of a tournament," Albrecht said. "We went through a process where we had three games in four days. That's kind of a tough road to hoe. Now we get two or three

days to get our legs back and now we can look and evaluate and see what we need to work on."

During the break Albrecht was able to give the girls a day off to support the future of the program before getting back to the grind.

Sundell explained practice time was used to fix the flaws that were exposed against Staley and Chillicothe.

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Play Begins 2/22

**Rocket League**  
Registration Ends 3/4  
Play Begins 3/14

**Sand Volleyball**  
Registration Ends 4/8  
Play Begins 4/11

## Leagues

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Play Begins 2/2

**Ping Pong Doubles**  
Registration Ends 3/4  
Play Begins 3/7

**Nerf Football**  
Registration Ends 4/1  
Play Begins 4/4

**Volleyball**  
Registration Ends 1/15  
Play Begins 1/21  
Captains Meetings 1/16 - 1/17

**5on5 Basketball**  
Registration Ends 2/11  
Play Begins 2/18  
Captains Meetings 2/12 - 2/13

**6on6 Soccer**  
Registration Ends 3/11  
Play Begins 3/26  
Captains Meetings 3/12 - 3/13

**Captains Meetings will be in  
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Senior guard Justin Pitts leads all of NCAA basketball in career scoring with 2,116 points and counting in the past four years.

DYLAN COLDSMITH | NW MISSOURIAN

# Pitts named among NCAA best

ISAIAH SWANN

Sports Editor | @iswanny10

Senior Justin Pitts is up to his old tricks again. Though the senior is typically reigning as king of the Division II world, this time it's the NCAA basketball universe.



"There's always sometimes we're out there where I'm like 'wow that was crazy,'" junior transfer Joey Witthus said.

Across all divisions of basketball and among all active NCAA basketball athletes, Pitts' name sits at the top, ranking No. 1 in points (2,116) scored and field goals made (765).

The senior is also positioned No. 24 in 3-point percentage (45 percent) and No. 22 in 3-pointers made (236). This all according to stats.ncaa.org.

"It's well documented that he's a special player," coach Ben McCollum said. "I don't think, like anything in life, you take for granted how special he is."

The many Pitts articles, moments and statistics continue to pile up. Game after game and year after year, the Blue Springs, Missouri native has been at the forefront of the top-rated Bearcats journey from a postseason contender to defending national champions.

"I even talked to my dad about this, 'how would you guard him?'" Witthus asked. "I felt even coming into the program that he could score whenever he wants but he's continuing to look for teammates and get them involved which is really cool, I think."

The abilities of having a quick first step, shooting the long ball and changing the outcome of a basketball game are what makes him one of a kind.

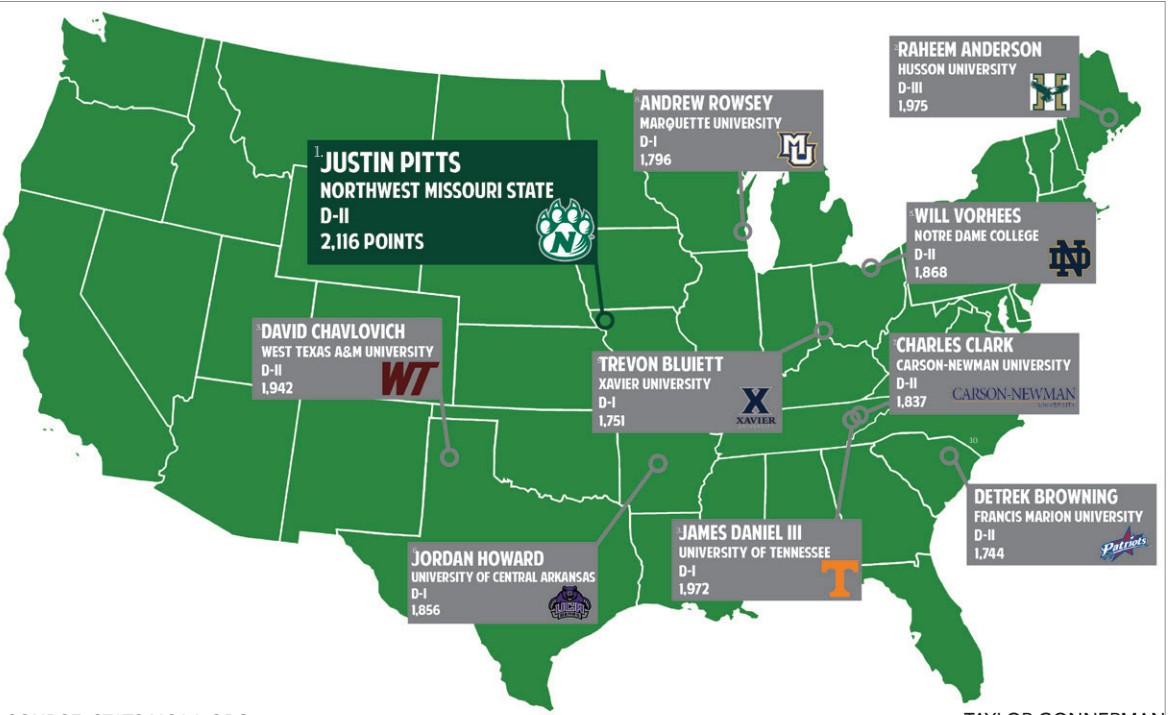
This combined with characteristics including unselfishness, relentless sprinkled with a dash of always wanting more, makes Pitts, statistically, the most dangerous point guard in the country.

The Bearcat is also 5-foot-10-inches.

His teammates are no stranger to Pitts' style of game. During Witthus's freshman year at Minnesota State, Pitts dropped 38 points and five assists (as a sophomore) leading the Bearcats to an 82-60 win in the second round of the Division II playoffs.

He's the Bearcats all-time leader in points and is the only North-

## Top active scorers in NCAA basketball



SOURCE: STATS.NCAA.ORG

TAYLOR GONNERMAN

west basketball player to join the 2,000 point club.

He's shooting 59 percent through eight games while also averaging 23.4 points and 5.4 assists.

While the offensive statistics jump off the page, it's difficult to grade an athlete's defense. For coach McCollum, it's simple.

Through his four-year career, McCollum has referred to Pitt's defense as his most underrated weapon.

"I think we've gotten to a point where we take it for granted how cool that is," McCollum said.

No Division I school ever wanted Pitts when he was being recruited. The scouts said he looked sleepy in the classroom and as the doubters piled up, Pitts story unfolded.

"In Justin's case, all of Division I and Division II... I think he can play for anyone," McCollum said. "I think he's that good of a player and were fortunate enough to have him on the team and fortunate enough to coach him."

NEXT GAMES
<b>Northwest @ Central Missouri</b> Dec. 10 @ 3:30 p.m.
<b>Northwest vs Lincoln Memorial @ Owensboro, Kentucky</b> Dec. 19 @ 6 p.m.



DYLAN COLDSMITH | NW MISSOURIAN

The reigning NCAA Division II Player of the Year is the only Northwest basketball player to join the 2,000 point club in Bearcat history.

## Northwest graduate assistant's faith remains foundational

ISAIAH SWANN

Sports Editor | @iswanny10



Northwest basketball hasn't witnessed a losing season since the 2010-11 season. Two years later, freshman Christian Phelps arrived on the scene as a Bearcat basketball student assistant.

Since then, the graduate assistant has been part of six consecutive winning seasons, a 132-33 overall record, four MIAA regular season titles, back-to-back MIAA tournament crowns as well as assisting in earning the program's first national title.

His faith in a higher power combined with a will to serve has helped shape the Lone Jack, Missouri native into a possible coach as well as a true man of God.

"He's an awesome guy," coach Ben McCollum said. "He's a very positive person and is a positive influence to our guys. He continues to grow and get better daily."

It hasn't always been easy for Phelps during his time as a Bearcat. Last year, just before the start of Northwest's 2016-17 campaign, Phelps was hit with the darkest news of his life.

Phelps was diagnosed with Ulcerative Colitis, a chronic inflammatory bowel disease distinguished by inflammation of the large intestine.

This hospitalized Phelps and sidelined the Bearcat during the season. The grad assistant had to work through flare ups and in the end, lost 20 pounds.

"I was praying and I had doubts," Phelps said. "But it was the grace of God. Everyone tries and tries so hard but regardless of the situation of doubt and fear, I knew that God loves me anyways."

Phelps's mom (Marcia Phelps) and dad (Gregg Phelps) along with Northwest track and field athlete Zenova Harris played an intricate role in giving Phelps the assurance he needed.

"She knew that I would go out and sin," Phelps said. "She just told me that Jesus loved me anyway and I was told this my entire life, but now through someone (Zenova) loving me unconditionally and actually living out what Jesus says really got me living out for Jesus, and I thank her a lot for that."

Relationships with God, friends and the basketball program have helped shape Phelps into the man he is today. Phelps attends the 9 a.m. service at the Bridge (church).

"I think it's been a roller coaster," Phelps said. "I've always went to church, but my whole heart wasn't into it. I wasn't the biggest christian when I was growing up."

Phelps thought it was all about work, but after a few years of transition, the grad student found his will.

"I just want to be able to have the tools to be able to share the gospel," Phelps said. "It didn't use to be that way. I wasn't confident at all, but as I went through college, after graduating, my perspective changed. It's not about work, it's about pleasing the one and only, Jesus. My identity is through him."

Getting up early and reading his bible daily has dramatically changed his life. While going through college, it was difficult to be consistent.

As the second-year graduate assistant is mid-way through his final year with the team, Phelps has seen the inconsistency transform into an everyday need.

A typical morning for Phelps involved getting everyone on the staff doughnuts, but most importantly, making sure that McCollum's coffee was just right at 6:30 a.m. "He's not afraid of tasks," McCollum said. "He'll be an excellent coach."

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